



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/748,236	12/27/2000	Eiki Obara	PM 0275414 T4HW-00S0951	3503
909	7590	02/23/2005	EXAMINER	
PILLSBURY WINTHROP, LLP P.O. BOX 10500 MCLEAN, VA 22102			VENT, JAMIE J	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2616	

DATE MAILED: 02/23/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/748,236	OBARA, EIKI	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Jamie Vent	2616	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 December 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being unpatentable by Enright et al (US 6,583,813).

[claims 1, 8, & 9]

In regard to Claims 1, 8, and 9 Enright et al discloses a multichannel image compression device and method comprising:

- recording means for storing digital images on a plurality of channels in frames channel by channel into memories (Figure 11 shows the recording of digital images through cameras 186-190. Each camera acts like a channel and furthermore each channel is sent onto the storage memories 192 – 196 for storage);
- control means for performing control in such a manner that the digital images stored by the recording means into said memories increase in number on a specific channel (Figure 2 shows the control means 38 wherein controls the manner in which digital images are processed and stored and furthermore adds further control if additional cameras/channels are added as further described in Column 12 Lines 1-37); and

- compression means for subjecting the digital images recorded by said recording means into said memories to compression coding by correlating frames channel by channel (Figure 23 shows compression modes for compressing digital images furthermore it is seen that each digital image is recorded by correlating each frame per channel as further seen Figures 20 and 21 where frames are correlated by channel/input number as well as sequencing of events).

[claims 2 & 10]

In regard to Claims 2 and 10, Enright et al discloses the multichannel image compression device wherein said control means performs control in such a manner that, with the digital images on the plurality of channels being stored channel by channel by said recording means into said memories sequentially, the digital image on said specific channel and the digital images on the other channels are stored alternately in said memories (Figure 42 shows an interface for sequence programming which programs the various cameras/channels different recording times and thereby inputted and stored alternatively into the memories depending on the schedule which they are sequenced to record as further described in Column 47 Lines 20+).

[claims 3 & 11]

In regard to Claims 3 and 11, Enright et al discloses the multichannel image compression device wherein the control means allows said specific channel to be set manually out of the plurality of channels (Figure 49 shows a menu, which allows for set up of cameras/channels. Furthermore, it can be seen that by setting the camera that the user is manually setting what camera/channel to use from the other available camera/channels as further described in Column 50 Lines 10-30).

[claims 4 & 12]

Art Unit: 2616

In regard to Claims 4 and 12, Enright et al discloses the multichannel image compression device wherein said control means sets said specific channel automatically out of the plurality of channels according to the occurrence of a warning to indicate an abnormality (Column 19 Lines 38-67 describes the event of an abnormal event of an alarm wherein a specific camera/channel would be used to record the area where the alarm condition is occurring and thereby sets the channel automatically due to the warning alarm that is determined by the system).

[claim 5]

In regard to Claim 5, Enright et al discloses the multichannel image compression device wherein the digital images of the channels, which are stored in the memories by the recording means, are produced by a plurality of monitor cameras (Figure 11 shows the plurality of cameras 186-190 which can be used than sent to the various memories 192-196 for storage).

[claim 6]

In regard to Claim 6, Enright et al discloses the multichannel image compression device wherein said recording means includes switching means for selectively switching the digital images of the channels in units of one frame for each channel, when the digital images are stored in the memories (Figure 45 shows an interface wherein the user can set the recording means to switch between the various channels (1,2,3) and switch between the channels either in an allotted time (in seconds) or per image (frame) as further disclosed in Column 47 Lines 45-67).

[claim 7]

In regard to Claim 7, Enright et al discloses the multichannel image compression device wherein an output from said compression means is recorded in a DVD (Figure 4 shows the recording of the images onto a removable storage optical storage medium as further described in Column 16 Lines 39-62).

Art Unit: 2616

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

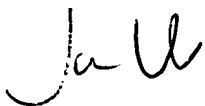
- Hobson et al (US 6317152) ;
- Katz (US 5216502).


Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jamie Vent whose telephone number is 703-305-0378. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Faile can be reached on 703-305-4380. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Jamie Vent
02/18/05


ROBERT CHEVALIER
PRIMARY EXAMINER